

**EASTERN REGION/PRICE  
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

**June 18, 2009 11:00 a.m.**

**DCFS Mammoth Room**

**PRESENT:**

Boni Seals, DCFS Community Service Manager  
Heather Ogden, Carbon School District  
Jeff Olinger, DWS  
John Behn, Boy Scouts of America  
Keri Larsen, CASA Coordinator  
Kobi Marchello, Foster Care Foundation  
Kyle Elder, Four Corner's Behavioral Health  
Lisa Branch, Local Interagency Council  
Lisa Shook, DCFS Intake (minutes)  
Patsy Buchmiller, Regional Healthcare Coordinator  
Ted Allen, BACA

**SPECIAL GUESTS:**

Kerri Burns, State Office QI  
Colleen Cook, TAL Coordinator

**EXCUSED:**

Missy Hamilton, Bruin Point Elementary Principal  
Rhonda Peterson, Carbon County Fairgrounds  
Rhulinda Sanderson, Consumer  
Shelley Wright, Children's Justice Center Manager

**UA PROTOCOL:**

We have an email from Judge Manley requesting data be added to the protocol. We don't have any data now, but could collect it after the program starts. John said this program will have a trial period. Kyle agreed we need to collect our own data on it. We have looked at the domains when developing the program. Boni asked that we look at the Scoring Sheet numbers 1-6. We talked about coming up with a score; 5 would be for a four to five month period and 6 would be for six months or more. If we're scoring a 6 the person should be able to function without DCFS involvement. John suggested we add number 1-6 across the score for each question. Out of 10 domains they would need a certain number to reduce the number of UA's. We'll weight each category from 1-3. The team went through each question and gave them a weight. The committee critiqued each question and made necessary changes.

Kobi suggested we attach the sheet to their court report. Kyle said in terms of data collection we need to identify what variable we're measuring. There are different outcomes we'll need to see depending on the stakeholder. Kobi suggested we look at recidivism and new referrals with the people that have participated in this. Boni can keep tracking the percentage of people that have relapsed. We'll have to figure out a way to collect data on those that have relapsed after leaving our services; maybe through the

courts. Question 1 was discussed and Kyle said it's about the baseline. We need to establish the baseline and then measure it from that point. Progress could be seen from there. An example would be if someone came in that was using methamphetamine, they would score a 1. Keri said it will be helpful for the client to view their progress. John suggested 3 or 4 times a year we submit a report to the major stakeholders. Boni will make the changes to the form and send it out. After the committee members give feedback, she'll submit it to Paul. We'll add a signature line to the page. Caseworkers will need to review it also.

#### **SYSTEMS OF CARE COMMITTEE:**

Lisa said they have 10 cases and it's going very well. Boni said some of them could have been removals from the court, but it's been very positive and has worked well. We've only had one family decline the service. Boni said they incorporated a pre-team meeting before the family team meeting. The region directors will be here next Thursday. The cases have all been very successful. Greg said Paul is working on helping other regions start the program in their area. It helps us get a good assessment on what the family needs in advance. The families are very responsive to the treatment.

#### **CPS DATA CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:**

Boni handed out contributing factors to CPS. We get a lot of custody disputes. Keri suggested we take action on false reporting. Boni and Kerri explained how hard it is to prove. Greg asked about alternative response. Boni said we're doing that on I.H.S. cases, but not on those that fall under abuse or neglect. Kobi asked if the DV statistics are recurring and if treatment is effective. Boni pulled the data yesterday and we've only had 3 in the last six months. The highest is Inadequate Parenting Skills. \*Boni will pull data on children that were in care and are now offending. Kobi asked if Devin's parenting class was voluntary. Boni said we don't have data showing they're effective. Kyle used to do a group for parents that had lost their children. Even though it was court ordered, they wanted to be there and participated. Kyle said the parents get turned off with parenting classes. We're hearing more positive comments from the Peer Parenting program. \*We will bring Diana Johnson to our next QIC. Kobi said she doesn't have enough Peer Parents. It's a hard program to recruit trainers for. Kobi asked if Boni could pull the data on supported only cases. Boni said we've been reviewing CPS to make sure it's active data. Kobi wanted to know what supported cases go on to take services and what type of services they're getting. Kyle asked where they're getting social networks. Lisa said sometimes they don't understand who their supports are. Kobi said part of it is helping them explore who can help them. Maybe we need more supports in Price. Heather said it's individualized and we need to find out where their interests are. Boni said we need to brainstorm on how we can help caseworkers come up with ideas of where they need to go. Greg said there's a lot that the caseworkers don't know about. Boni said there's a lot in Carbon County, but people just don't know about it. We need to concentrate on informal supports. Where they hang out and who they associate with. It's hard for some people to identify who their support is and some people don't want to ask. We'll look at more data later and come back to the table with this topic.

### **TRANSITION TO ADULT LIVING (TAL):**

Colleen brought a movie made by the Utah Youth Mentor Project. She wants input as to if the program might work here in our area. It's all volunteer work and we'd have to come up with a group. The First Presbyterian Church started the program in Salt Lake. If we could get 6 – 8 mentors, they would come down and train them. We have 14 TAL children in our area. The mentor has to sign up for a 2 year contract. Colleen passed out a form that explained what permanency is. The children don't know who their supports are and we would have to teach them who they are. Some of them fight the change. There are no rules of what you have to do to be a mentor; you just need to be there for them. Diana Johnson has started a program to help teach them budgeting, etc. We require foster parents that take younger children to meet certain criteria. We should also put requirements on those that take older children. The children have to be ready to accept a mentor; some of them wouldn't go along with an older person mentoring them. Out of our 15 children, how many would be willing to participate. We need to provide people that can satisfy their needs. The child would need to draw from other supports depending on what they need. It all depends on what the kids would allow. Boni said there are a lot of programs in our community. We have a perfect base at the college. One of the advantages of using older people for the program is they have more time and the finances to help. Colleen said we need \$2000 for the training and the support. Kyle asked who gets the money. What the mentors do comes out of their own pocket, like going out to eat, etc. Colleen has watched the TAL youth struggle. Kerri said not all of them have the security of a foster family. Colleen would like each child to have 5 good supports. Kyle said you'd be surprised at how far they stretch to find someone. Colleen will call Dorothy Dart and ask her what the \$2000 is used for. Boni asked what goals the committee is interested in when it comes to working with the TAL youth. Support keeps coming up as a topic. Kyle said one thing about mentors is it's a contrived relationship. Boni likes working with them a year before they're out of care. Once they get out of custody they don't have to do anything. Colleen said she can see that they are panicking when she starts telling them what they need to do when they get out of care. We can invite Diana. She's recruiting a big brother, big sister program. The kids don't like people getting paid to help them out. For August we'll discuss how to create supports. Greg will see if he can get information on the Grand Families. It might be beneficial to invite the TAL youth. Colleen will invite a couple of them. The TAL youth can seek guidance from Colleen until they're 21. Colleen will attend our next meeting.

Next meeting is August 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

#### *\*Notes to Boni:*

*Pull data on children that were in care and are now offending.*

*Invite Diana Johnson to our next QIC meeting.*

*Pull CPS data on supported only cases.*

*Pull data on supported case that go on to receive services and what type of services.*

